Common Origination and Disbursement

COD Processing Update

October 1, 2004

Direct Loan

COD News

COD Holiday Schedule For October 11, 2004 (10/01/04)
The COD School Relations Center will be open on Monday, October 11, 2004, Columbus Day. The COD System will accept and process data from schools and send back acknowledgements on Monday, October 11, 2004. However, requests for changes in funding levels and for funds will not be processed until Tuesday, October 12, 2004. Further information regarding Columbus Day processing and customer service hours for COD and other FSA/ED call centers is available in an Electronic Announcement on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/.

Updating Your School Account Statement (SAS) Options In COD (09/29/04)
COD would like to remind schools (COD web site School User Levels 3-5) that you are able to customize your SAS report options by accessing the Report Selection Link under the COD web site's School Summary Information screen. However, prior to making any changes to your school's SAS options, always remember to select the appropriate award year from the Award Year dropdown menu on the Report Selection screen. This will ensure that any changes you make to your school's SAS options are applied to the correct award year.

Further details on customizing your SAS report are available in the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference, Volume VIII, Section 8, http://www.fsadownload.ed.gov/CODTechRef0405.htm/.

School Administration LO-Online Functionality Web Site and Direct Loan E-MPN Web Site Outages For October 1-3, 2004 (09/28/04)
The School Administration LO-online functionality web site is moving to the Direct Loan E-MPN web site.

To accommodate the move, the School Administration LO-online functionality web site and the Direct Loan E-MPN web site will be unavailable from 8:00 P.M. (ET), Friday, October 1, 2004 through Noon (ET), Sunday, October 3, 2004. During this time, you will not be able to access the School Administration LO-online functionality. Additionally, borrowers will not be able to complete a new MPN electronically or retrieve an existing MPN that was completed electronically. Messages will be posted on the web sites accordingly.

Note: Borrowers who start the electronic MPN process by 7:00 P.M. (ET) on Friday, October 1, 2004 will be able to complete their MPNs before the web site becomes unavailable. Also, as a reminder, on Monday, October 4, 2004 from 12:00 A.M. until 7:00 A.M. (ET) the Direct Loan E-MPN web site will be unavailable while weekly routine maintenance is performed.

Beginning October 4, 2004, you should access the current School Administration LO-online functionality at the new web address, http://dlenote.ed.gov/.

COD Processing Update

For more information, please refer to DLB-04-23, that was posted on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dlbulletins/DLB0423.html/. If you have additional questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

End Of Federal Fiscal Year-Impact On Pell Grant And Direct Loan Funds Availability (09/10/04)
September 30, 2004 marked the end of the Department of Education's 2004 Federal fiscal year. Some of the Department's core financial systems are on a modified processing schedule while the Department finalizes its processing and accounting for Fiscal Year 2004. Schools should refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP web site, http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0909CODEndofFYImpact.html/, for details on how Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) processing is affected, and how this may impact the way your school processes Pell Grant and Direct Loan records during the days surrounding the September 30th date.

All Schools Must Be COD Full Participants Beginning With 2005-2006 Award Year [08/02/04 (Updated 08/09/04)]
As a reminder, *all* schools must be Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year. This means that *all* schools must be able to submit 2005-2006 Pell and/or Direct Loan origination and disbursement data to the COD System using the COD Common Record in XML format.

Note: FSA informed schools in GEN-04-06 that the implementation of the Common Record: ISIR will not be implemented for the 2005-2006 Award Year. The adjustment of the Common Record: ISIR implementation schedule *does not* affect the requirement that *all* schools must be COD Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year.

Current Phase-In Participants can refer to the following sections of the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference (http://www.ifap.ed.gov/cod/0405CODTechRefDraft.html/) for information that may be helpful in determining their Full Participant solution:
- Volume I, Section 3 provides information about XML.
- Volume II, Section 1 and Volume V, Section 1 provide information about FSA's EDExpress software that can be used to submit data to the COD System.
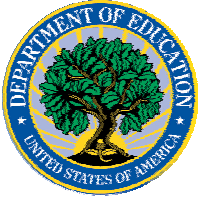
Updated information about Full Participant sign up for the 2005-2006 Award Year is posted on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0806CODFullParticReq0506.html/.

Reports and Data Requests

Except as listed below, all Direct Loan reports and data requests are available as specified in Volume VIII, Section 8 of the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference posted on the IFAP web site at www.IFAP.ed.gov/. There are issues with the following Direct Loan reports and/or data requests:

• Direct Loan Rebuild File—	Cannot be requested on the COD web site and is not being produced. COD is researching several issues related to incorrect data in the file. (08/25/04)
• Duplicate Student Borrower Report—	For 2002-2003 and forward, is not being

pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes and is not available on the COD web site. (08/25/04)

Resolved Issues In Clean Up

COD has implemented code fixes for the issues listed below and is cleaning up the affected records. After a clean up has been completed, its status will be updated and it will remain in this section for an additional 7 calendar days.

Issue	In Progress	Completed
Disbursements Not Displaying On COD Web Site And/Or SAS	√	
Direct Loan School Account Statement (SAS) Data Issues	√	
Changes To Award And Disbursement Amounts Not Processed Correctly	√	
COD Edit 116 Not Working Correctly	√	

Current Issues

Phase-In Records Incorrectly Rejecting For COD Edit 056 [08/12/04 (Updated 09/27/04)]
COD previously notified schools that some Phase-In 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 records are incorrectly rejecting for COD Edit 056 (Sequence Number Not In Sequential Order). This edit is being returned incorrectly to Phase-In schools that submit changes to anticipated disbursement amounts.

Additionally, when a change to the anticipated disbursement amount is submitted along with a reduced award amount, COD is only accepting the reduced award amount. As a result, COD Edit 846 (Total 'Anticipated Gross Amount' must be less than or equal to the Loan Amount Approved) is returned because the award amount is less than the total anticipated disbursements.

COD is researching a code fix for this issue and will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.

Duplicate Disbursement Information In COD [05/06/04 (Updated 09/17/04)]
COD has learned that duplicate disbursement numbers are displaying incorrectly on the COD web site's Award Disbursements Information screen. On this screen under the Disbursement Number column, disbursement numbers are appearing twice. However, when viewing the Disbursement Information screen, each disbursement displays a different status (Pending or Disbursed).

COD has made significant progress in researching the cause of this issue and anticipates a resolution in September 2004. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

COD Processing Update

Student Name And Date Of Birth Not Updated In COD [05/03/04 (Updated 09/17/04)]
As previously reported, COD identified an issue where new 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 origination records are accepted in COD; however, the student's Name and Date of Birth (DOB) updates submitted by the school are not displaying on the COD web site's Person Information screen. The COD web site is reflecting the Name and DOB from the previous award year. Additionally, in some cases, changes to Name and DOB for previously accepted origination records are not displaying on the Person Information screen as well.

COD is still analyzing this issue and appreciates your patience. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

MPN Status Inaccurate On COD Web Site [10/30/03 (Updated 09/17/04)]
For the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 Award Years, the COD web site is displaying an MPN Status of Active for MPNs that have expired when it should display as Inactive. Currently, COD believes this is only a display issue and does not impact data processing. COD is researching a code fix that will adjust the MPN status to its correct value and will provide updates as more information becomes available.

COD Not Generating Credit Decision Override Response For The 2004-2005 Award Year (09/03/04)
COD generates a Credit Decision Override response when a PLUS borrower's endorser or appeal of a credit decision has been approved. Additionally, COD generates correspondence to the PLUS borrower and the endorser, if applicable. Recently, some schools have not received a Credit Decision Override response for 2004-2005 Award Year PLUS awards when the PLUS borrower's endorser has been approved. It also appears that COD is not generating the correspondence related to these overrides to the affected parents and endorsers.
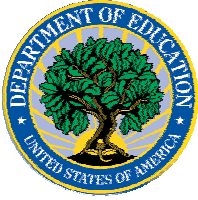
COD is researching this issue and will provide updates as more information becomes available. If you discover that you have not received a Credit Decision Override response, contact the COD School Relations Center to report their information. In the meantime, you can view the status of credit decision overrides and credit decision results for endorsers via the COD web site.

Some Null Tags Submitted Via Batch Not Updated In COD (09/01/04)
A null tag containing a *nil="true"* attribute can be submitted for some data elements in a Common Record document to remove or delete content currently on file in the COD database. Recently, COD determined that some null tags are being accepted by the COD System, but are not appropriately updating the COD database. This means that if a school submits a null tag for some data elements, the COD System is ignoring it and the content on the COD database for that data element is not being removed.

On August 10, 2004, COD implemented a code fix to allow a null tag submitted for the Verification Status Code data element to update the COD database correctly. COD continues research to ensure that all applicable data elements reported with a null tag will update the COD database correctly. Note that not all data elements can be submitted with null tags; refer to the COD Technical Reference, Volume II, Section 3 for the applicable data elements.

COD will provide updates as more information becomes available. In the meantime, schools needing to remove or delete content in COD for a specific data element may do so via the COD web site.

Rejected Records Not Viewable On The COD Web Site [07/30/04 (Updated 08/26/04)]
Some schools are receiving an error message when attempting to view rejected records on the COD web site's Batch Detail Information screen. Clicking on the Rejected link in the Award No. column causes the following error message to display: "An unexpected error has occurred. Please contact your administrator if the problem persists."

On August 10, 2004, COD partially corrected this problem by migrating a code fix to correct the affected Phase-In records. Next, the code fix will be migrated to correct the affected Common Records. COD will provide more information about the code fix for Common Records as soon as it becomes available.

Pell Grants

COD News

COD Holiday Schedule For October 11, 2004 (10/01/04)
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2003-2004 Pell Grant Processing Deadline (10/01/04)
As a reminder, under 34 CFR 690.83, schools must submit student payment data by September 30. Therefore, the deadline for electronically transmitting records for the Federal Pell Grant 2003-2004 Award Year was Thursday, September 30, 2004.

After September 30, 2004, COD will –
- Accept and process decreases to previously accepted 2003-2004 award originations and decreases to previously accepted 2003-2004 disbursements; and
- Accept and process originations and disbursements of new 2003-2004 awards or 2003-2004 award amount increases only if 1) the student was in a POP situation during the 2003-2004 Award Year or 2) the Department has granted Administrative Relief or Extended Processing for the 2003-2004 Award Year, including extended deadlines for schools affected by the recent severe weather conditions.

*Note***:** Unless one of these situations applies, the COD System will reject originations and disbursements of new 2003-2004 awards or 2003-2004 award amount increases and return Full Participant Edit 43/Phase-In Edit 399 (New Award Amount or Award Increase Received After End of Processing Year and Institution has Not Been Granted Administrative Relief) or Full Participant Edit 71/ Phase-In Edit 417 (New Disbursement Increase, or Payment Trigger to "Y" Received After End of Processing Year and Institution Has Not Been Granted Administrative Relief).

For additional information about Administrative Relief and extended processing, refer to the Electronic Announcement on IFAP at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0922pelldeadline0203.html. For details regarding extended deadlines for schools affected by the recent severe weather conditions, refer to GEN-04-09 on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/GEN0409.html/.

EDExpress Users May Need to Update Verification Status (09/29/04)
EDExpress users may need to update a student's Verification Status in the COD System. COD urges schools that submit Pell Grant records to the COD System using EDExpress for Windows 2004-2005, Release 2.0 to read the recently posted electronic announcement entitled "Program File Available for Download to Resolve Pell Grant Disbursement Export Issue in EDExpress for

Windows 2004-2005, Release 2.0" for further details. The announcement is posted on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0927PellDLLpatch0405.html/.

Delay In Pushing Pell YTD Records [09/23/04 (Updated 09/27/04)]
COD has now pushed all outstanding Pell Year-to-Date (YTD) Records for all award years (PGYRxxOP) to schools' SAIG mailboxes. COD apologizes for any inconvenience this delay may have caused schools.

End Of Federal Fiscal Year-Impact On Pell Grant And Direct Loan Funds Availability (09/10/04)
September 30, 2004 marked the end of the Department of Education's 2004 Federal fiscal year. Some of the Department's core financial systems are on a modified processing schedule while the Department finalizes its processing and accounting for Fiscal Year 2004. Schools should refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP web site, http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0909CODEndofFYImpact.html/, for details on how Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) processing is affected, and how this may impact the way your school processes Pell Grant and Direct Loan records during the days surrounding the September 30th date.

All Schools Must Be COD Full Participants Beginning With 2005-2006 Award Year [08/02/04 (Updated 08/09/04)]
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Note: FSA informed schools in GEN-04-06 that the implementation of the Common Record: ISIR will not be implemented for the 2005-2006 Award Year. The adjustment of the Common Record: ISIR implementation schedule *does not* affect the requirement that *all* schools must be COD Full Participants beginning with the 2005-2006 Award Year.

Current Phase-In Participants can refer to the following sections of the 2004-2005 COD Technical Reference (http://www.ifap.ed.gov/cod/0405CODTechRefDraft.html/) for information that may be helpful in determining their Full Participant solution:
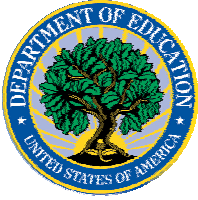- Volume I, Section 3 provides information about XML.
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Updated information about Full Participant sign up for the 2005-2006 Award Year is posted on the IFAP web site at http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0806CODFullParticReq0506.html/.

Reports and Data Requests

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COD Processing Update

• Pell POP Report—	For 2004-2005, is not available on the COD web site. COD is evaluating the functionality to push the report to schools' COD newsboxes. Report is being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes (Message Class PGPR05OP). (08/25/04)
• Verification Status Report—	For 2004-2005, is not being pushed to schools' SAIG mailboxes and is not available on the COD web site. COD is evaluating all functionality. (08/25/04)

Resolved Issues In Clean Up

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Current Issues

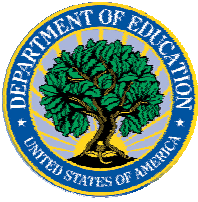**Duplicate Disbursement Information In COD [05/06/04 (Updated 09/17/04)]**
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On September 7, 2004 COD implemented a code fix to allow a null tag submitted for the Low Tuition and Fees Code data element to update the COD database correctly. Additionally, a null tag submitted for the Verification Status Code data element continues to update the COD database correctly. COD continues research to ensure that all applicable data elements reported with a null tag will update the COD database correctly. Note that not all data elements can be submitted with null tags; refer to the COD Technical Reference, Volume II, Section 3 for the applicable data elements.

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